



FEMA

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DISASTER NEWS

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DISASTER RECOVERY CENTER TO OPEN WEDNESDAY IN BURTON

EAST LANSING, MI -- Disaster recovery officials have announced the opening of a Disaster Recovery Center to serve homeowners, renters and business people who have already called to register for assistance. The center will be located in the City of Burton Police and Fire Administration Building at 4090 Manor Drive in Burton, Genesee County. It will be open on Wednesday, July 21 from 12 noon to 6 p.m. Operating hours will be 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Sunday, July 25 and Monday through Saturday thereafter.

Disaster Recovery Centers are also located in Dearborn Heights, at the Detroit City Airport, in Plainfield Township (Grand Rapids), in Romeo and in Niles (until 6 p.m., Tuesday, July 20). State Coordinating Officer, Ralph J. Hobar of the Michigan State Police Emergency Management Division, said, "You can visit whatever center is convenient regardless of where you live. Disaster experts at the centers can answer your questions about assistance, help you complete your U.S. Small Business Administration loan application and give you information about how to reduce future disaster damage."

"You are not required to visit a Disaster Recovery Center to get answers to your questions after you apply for disaster assistance," explained Federal Coordinating Officer Marianne C. Jackson. "You can get further information by calling the FEMA Helpline, also at **1-800-621-FEMA (3362).**"

Recovery officials remind renters, homeowners and business owners who suffered damage or loss in the severe weather that occurred between May 20 and 24 to apply for assistance by calling the toll-free registration number, **1-800-621-FEMA (3362)**, or TTY 1-800-4562-7585 for those with hearing or speech impairment.

[NOTE TO EDITOR: A list of the 19 disaster-declared counties is available upon request.]

On March 1, 2003, FEMA became part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. FEMA's continuing mission within the new department is to lead the effort to prepare the nation for all hazards and effectively manage federal response and recovery efforts following any national incident. FEMA also initiates proactive mitigation activities, trains first responders, and manages Citizen Corps, the National Flood Insurance Program and the U.S. Fire Administration.

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